



**TO:** Pennsylvania Parole Board Members

**FROM:** Deborah Carpenter  
PA Board Secretary

**DATE:** November 10, 2022

**RE:** Board Meeting Minutes  
**September 21, 2022**

In compliance with *Act 175*, known as the *Sunshine Law*, effective September 17, 1976, the Pennsylvania Parole Board provided notification to the public of the scheduled meeting on October 28, 2021 the Pennsylvania Parole Board.

The public meeting convened at 9:00 AM at Riverfront Office Center in Harrisburg, PA with Chairperson Theodore Johnson presiding. A quorum of Board Members was present.

### **Attendance**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chairperson Ted Johnson                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Leo Dunn                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Tony Moscato    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Marcus Brown                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Jim Fox                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> BD Member Linda Rosenberg            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Khadija Diggs                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Jack Daneri                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BD Member Elizabeth Penna |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Robinson, Chief Counsel              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Carpenter, Board Secretary                    |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neil Malady, Policy/Legislative Affairs   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Woolf, Director – Office of Board Secretary |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Potteiger, Chief Hearing Examiner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Treaster, Special Assistant                 |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Janaki Theivakumaran, SOAB Exec. Asst.    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tara Gross, Office of Victim Advocate             |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meghan Dade, SOAB Director                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suzanne Estrella, Victim Advocate                 |   |

Chairperson Johnson recognized public guests:

Mark Bergstrom, Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission  
John Manning, Deputy Chief Counsel DOC

### **APPROVAL OF AUGUST BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Board Member Moscato motioned to approve the August 17, 2022 Parole Board minutes. Board Member Brown seconded the motion. The Parole Board unanimously approved the minutes.

## **OFFICE AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **Office of Victim Advocate (OVA)**

Victim Advocate Suzanne Estrella and Victim Advocate Supervisor, Tara Gross

Ms. Estrella, along with Ms. Gross, provided an overview and a brief video of the inmate apology bank process.

### **Sexual Offenders Assessment Board (SOAB)**

Executive Director Meghan Dade

- Ms. Dade reminded the Board of an upcoming training on September 30, 2022, along with an upcoming in-person training scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup> that will feature David Prescott, a leader in the field for sex offender treatment. Space is limited for the December training, please let Ms. Dade know if any Decision Maker would like to attend.

### **Communications/Media Report**

Special Assistant Laura Treaster

- Working on projects and assisting Senior Staff as needed.
- Finalizing the Erie Parole symposium.
- Ms. Treaster reminded everyone of her upcoming retirement on September 23, 2022.

### **Policy and Legislative Affairs Report**

Policy and Legislative Affairs Director Neil Malady

- House and Senate are back in session this week and will return in October for one day. They are tentatively scheduled to return for one day in November and December.
- House Bill 146 has made it to the Governor's Office for passage. This bill amends the current statute to preclude parole for an inmate up to 2 years prior to minimum if they are convicted of a violent offense while incarcerated.

### **Office of Chief Counsel Report**

Chief Counsel Alan Robinson

- No new litigation cases to report this month.
- Attorney Morgan Davis will return from maternity leave next month.

### **Office of Hearing Examiners Report**

Chief Hearing Examiner Michael Potteiger

- The new hearing waiver process will begin on November 1, 2022. Deputy Chief Hearing Examiners' trained Field Supervision staff this month on the new process.
  - The new process will eliminate the resubmission of waiver packets. The paperwork needs to be complete and accurate at time of submission, otherwise the packet will be rejected and the case will move to a hearing.
- Board Member Moscato discussed parole interview/panel hearing days. Senior Staff will continue to monitor and address/improve on the scheduling process to include working with various entities to allow for counsel to meet with their clients prior to hearing.

### **Board Secretary Report**

Board Secretary Deb Carpenter and Board Secretary Office Director, Scott Woolf

- Provided a draft of new voting rules for Board discussion.
  - Various discussions occurred regarding the least or most restrictive release/review dates.
  - Senior Staff will take the feedback and put together some various voting options for the Board to vote on at a future meeting.
- The Board will no longer issue non-compliance sex offender treatment board actions. This will now be done by DOC and the document will be uploaded to OnBase. This process is dictated by statute there is no decision required by the Board.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:09 AM Board Member Fox made a motion to adjourn the public session. The motion was seconded by Board Member Moscato. The Board Members voted unanimously to adjourn the public session.